

Application No. 09/808,576
Docket No. 1998U002D2.US
Reply to Office Action Dated April 26, 2004

Remarks

Section 103 Rejections

The Examiner rejected Claims 50-59 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP 0 776 691 in view of *Calvert* (US 3,779,712). The Applicant traverses this rejection, as the Applicant believes that *Calvert* does not disclose the Applicant's claimed "catalyst injection tube being disposed within a support tube that protrudes through the reactor vessel wall".


More particularly, at col. 5, lines 49-60, referring to Fig. 5, *Calvert* discloses a plug valve 43 adjacent to reactor wall 42 having a packing gland seal 38 adjacent to the plug valve, the plug valve disposed between the gland seal and reactor wall according to Fig. 5. There does not appear to be a disclosure of the "catalyst injection tube being disposed within a support tube that protrudes through the reactor vessel wall" as claimed, an embodiment of which is pictured at Fig. 1 of Applicant's invention. Given the lack of disclosure, the combination of *Calvert* and EP '691 do not make a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

The Applicant thus requests the rejection be withdrawn.

It is submitted that the case is in condition for allowance. The applicant invites the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney if there are any other issues outstanding which have not been presented to the Examiner's satisfaction.

June 2/04
Date

Respectfully submitted,


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